

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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- 1 1. A method implemented by a digital processing system for processing media
2 data, said method comprising:
3 creating on a first digital processing system a set of data to indicate how to
4 transmit a time related sequence of media data according to a
5 transmission protocol; and
6 storing said set of data on a storage device coupled to the first digital
7 processing system, wherein said set of data is a time related sequence
8 of data associated with and separate from said time related sequence of
9 media data.
- 1 2. A method as in claim 1 wherein said set of data is stored as a track of
2 indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a packet data
3 protocol.
- 1 3. A method as in claim 1 further comprising:
2 determining a format of said time related sequence of media data before
3 creating said set of data;
4 determining said transmission protocol before creating said set of data,
5 wherein said transmission protocol is used to transmit said time related
6 sequence of media data which has said format.

- 1 4. A method as in claim 1 further comprising:
2 transmitting packets of data representing said time related sequence of media
3 data according to said transmission protocol.
- 1 5. A method as in claim 4 further comprising:
2 transmitting said set of data to a second digital processing system, which
3 second digital processing system, in response to receiving said set of
4 data, generates said packets of data.
- 1 6. A method as in claim 4 wherein for each of said packets, said set of data refers
2 to data in at least one of a sequence of image data or a sequence of audio data
3 associated with said time related sequence of media data.
- 1 7. A method as in claim 5 wherein said first digital processing system provides
2 said set of data to a server digital processing system which stores said set of data and
3 transmits said packets of data to a receiving digital processing system.
- 1 8. A machine readable medium containing executable program instructions,
2 which when executed on a digital processing system cause the digital processing
3 system to perform a method comprising:
4 retrieving a set of data which indicates how to transmit a time related sequence
5 of media data according to a transmission protocol;

6 transmitting data representative of said time related sequence of media data
7 according to said set of data, wherein said set of data is a time related
8 sequence of data associated with and separate from said time related
9 sequence of media data.

1 9. The machine readable medium of claim 8, wherein said set of data is stored as
2 a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a packet
3 data protocol.

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1 10. The machine readable medium of claim 8, wherein execution of said
2 executable program instructions further cause said digital processing system to
3 perform the method comprising:
4 determining a format of said time related sequence of media data;
5 determining said transmission protocol, wherein said transmission protocol is
6 used to transmit said time related sequence of media data which has
7 said format.

1 11. The machine readable medium of claim 10, wherein execution of said
2 executable program instructions further cause said digital processing system to
3 perform the method comprising:
4 transmitting packets of data representing said time related sequence of media
5 data according to said transmission protocol.

1 12. The machine readable medium of claim 11, wherein for each of said packets,
2 said set of data refers to data in at least one of a sequence of image data or a sequence
3 of audio data associated with said time related sequence of media data.

1 13. The machine readable medium of claim 8, comprising a magnetic storage area,
2 wherein at least one of said executable program instructions and said time related
3 sequence of media data is stored in said magnetic storage area.

1 14. The machine readable medium of claim 8, comprising an optical storage area,
2 wherein at least one of said executable program instructions and said time related
3 sequence of media data is stored in said optical storage area.

1 15. The machine readable medium of claim 8, comprising an electronic storage
2 area, wherein at least one of said executable program instructions and said time related
3 sequence of media data is stored in said electronic storage area.

1 16. An apparatus comprising:
2 a first digital processing system comprising a first processor to generate a set
3 of data associated with transmission of a time related sequence of
4 media data according to a transmission protocol, wherein said set of
5 data is a time related sequence of data associated with and separate
6 from said time related sequence of media data.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising:
2 a second digital processing system, coupled to said first digital processing system, to
3 receive said set of data from said first digital processing system, said second
4 processor comprising:

5 a second processor;
6 a first storage area to store said media data; and
7 a second storage area to store said set of data.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said second digital processing system is
2 coupled to a data communication link to provide packets of data representing said time
3 related sequence of media data according to said transmission protocol.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein for each of said packets, said set of data
2 refers to data in at least one of a sequence of image data or a sequence of audio data
3 associated with said time related sequence of media data.

1 20. A computer readable medium comprising:
2 a time related sequence of media data;
3 a set of data which, when processed by a digital processing system, indicates
4 to said digital processing system how to transmit said time related
5 sequence of media data according to a transmission protocol, wherein
6 said set of data is a time related sequence of data associated with and
7 separate from said time related sequence of media data.

1 21. The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein said set of data is stored
2 as a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a
3 packet data protocol.

1 22. The computer readable medium of claim 20, further comprising:
2 a first set of instructions to cause a digital processing system to determine a
3 format of said time related sequence of media data;
4 a second set of instructions to cause said digital processing system to
5 determine said transmission protocol, wherein said transmission
6 protocol is used to transmit said time related sequence of media data
7 which has said format.

1 23. The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein said set of data is stored
2 as a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a
3 packet data protocol.

1 24. The computer readable medium of claim 21, further comprising a set of
2 instructions to cause a digital processing system to generate packets representing said
3 time related sequence of media data, wherein for each of said packets, said set of data
4 refers to data in at least one of a sequence of image data and a sequence of audio data
5 associated with said time related sequence of media data.

1 25. The computer readable medium of claim 20, comprising a magnetic storage
2 area, wherein at least one of said time related sequence of media data and said set of
3 data is stored in said magnetic storage area.

1 26. The computer readable medium of claim 20, comprising an optical storage
2 area, wherein at least one of said time related sequence of media data and set of
3 instructions is stored in said optical storage area.

1 27. The computer readable medium of claim 20, comprising an electronic storage
2 area, wherein at least one of said time related sequence of media data and said set of
3 data is stored in said electronic storage area.

1 28. A computer readable medium containing executable computer program
2 instructions, which when executed on a first digital processing system cause the first
3 digital processing system to perform a method comprising:
4 generating a set of data to indicate a method to transmit a time related sequence
5 of media data according to a transmission protocol, wherein said set of
6 data is a time related sequence of data associated with and separate
7 from said time related sequence of media data; and
8 storing said set of data.

1 29. The computer readable medium of claim 28, wherein said set of data is stored
2 as a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a
3 packet data protocol.

1 30. The machine readable medium of claim 28, wherein said executable program
2 instructions further cause the first digital processing system to perform the method
3 comprising:

4 determining a format of said time related sequence of media data;
5 determining said transmission protocol, wherein said transmission protocol is
6 used to transmit said time related sequence of media data which has
7 said format.

1 31. The machine readable medium of claim 28, wherein said executable program
2 instructions further cause the first digital processing system to perform the method
3 comprising:

4 generating packets of data representing said time related sequence of media
5 data according to said transmission protocol; and
6 transmitting said packets to a second digital processing system.

1 32. The machine readable medium of claim 28, wherein said executable program
2 instructions further cause the digital processing system to perform the method
3 comprising:

4 transmitting said set of data to a second digital processing system, wherein
5 said second digital processing system utilizes said set of data to
6 generate packets of data representing said time related sequence of
7 media data according to said transmission protocol.

1 33. The machine readable medium of claim 31, wherein for each of said packets,
2 said set of data refers to data in at least one of a sequence of image data and a sequence
3 of audio data associated with said time related sequence of media data.

1 34. The machine readable medium of claim 22, wherein for each of said packets,
2 said set of data refers to data in at least one of said sequence of image data and said
3 sequence of audio data.

1 35. The machine readable medium of claim 32, wherein said second digital
2 processing system, in response to said set of data, transmits said packets of data to
3 another digital processing system.

1 36. An apparatus for processing media data, said apparatus comprising:
2 a first means for generating a set of data associated with transmission of a time
3 related sequence of media data according to a transmission protocol,
4 wherein said set of data is a time related sequence of data associated
5 with and separate from said time related sequence of media data; and
6 a second means for storing said first set of data.

1 37. The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising:
2 a third means for transmitting packets of data representing said time related
3 sequence of media data.

1 38. The apparatus of claim 37, wherein said set of data identifies at least a portion
2 of said packets of data.

1 39. The apparatus of claim 37, wherein said set of data provides at least a portion
2 of the information included in said packets of data.

1 40. The apparatus of claim 37, further comprising:
2 a third means for transmitting said set of data to a server means, said server
3 means having means for generating packets of data representing said
4 time related sequence of media data for transmission to a receiver
5 means.

1 41. A method of processing media data, said method comprising:
2 storing a time related sequence of media data;
3 storing a set of data to enable a first digital processing system to generate,
4 according to a transmission protocol, data packets representing said
5 time related sequence of media data, wherein said set of data is a time

6 related sequence of data associated with said time related sequence of
7 media data.

1 42. The method of claim 41, wherein said set of data provides at least a portion of
2 the information included in said data packets.

1 43. The method of claim 41, wherein said set of data identifies at least a portion of
2 the information included in said data packets.

1 44. The method of claim 41, further comprising:
2 generating said set of data at a second digital processing system;
3 said second digital processing system transmitting said set of data to said first
4 digital processing system; and
5 said first digital processing system generating said data packets in response to
6 receiving said set of data.

1 45. The method of claim 44, further comprising:
2 said first digital processing system transmitting said data packets to another
3 digital processing system for presentation as a media object.

1 46. A method implemented by a digital processing system for processing media
2 data, said method comprising:

3 generating on a first digital processing system a first time related sequence of
4 data to indicate how to transmit a second time related sequence of data
5 according to a transmission protocol, wherein said second time related
6 sequence of data is associated with time-based media, and wherein said
7 first time related sequence of data is associated with said second time
8 related sequence of data; and
9 storing said first time related sequence of data.

1 47. A method as in claim 46, wherein said first time related sequence of data is
2 stored as a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises
3 a packet data protocol.

1 48. A method as in claim 46, further comprising:
2 determining a format of said second time related sequence of data prior to
3 generating said first time related sequence of data; and
4 determining said transmission protocol prior to generating said first time
5 related sequence of data, wherein said transmission protocol is used to
6 transmit said second time related sequence of data which has said
7 format.

1 49. A method as in claim 46, further comprising:
2 transmitting packets of data representing said second time related sequence of
3 data according to said transmission protocol.

1 50. A method as in claim 49, further comprising:
2 transmitting said first time related sequence of data to a second digital
3 processing system, which second digital processing system, in
4 response to receiving said first time related sequence of data, generates
5 said packets of data.

1 51. A method as in claim 49, wherein for each of said packets, said first time
2 related sequence of data refers to at least one of a sequence of image data or a
3 sequence of audio data associated with said second time related sequence of data.

1 52. A method as in claim 50, wherein said first digital processing system provides
2 said first time related sequence of data to a server digital processing system which
3 stores said first time related sequence of data and transmits said packets of data to a
4 receiving digital processing system.

1 53. A method as in claim 50, further comprising presenting said time related
2 sequence of media data on at least one of said first digital processing system and said
3 second digital processing system.

1 54. A method as in claim 46, wherein said second time related sequence of data is
2 stored on a read-only memory (ROM).

1 55. A method as in claim 54, wherein said read-only memory (ROM) comprises a
2 optical storage medium.

1 56. A method as in claim 54, wherein said second time related sequence of data is
2 packetized according to said first time related sequence of data without performing at
3 least one of a storing and a formatting operation on said second time related sequence
4 of data.